

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

No. CV 10-0258 WJ/RHS
CR 08-2597 WJ

SERGIO RIVAS-BARRAZA,

Defendant.

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant's Motion For Time Reduction By An Inmate In Federal Custody, (28 U.S.C.A. § 2255) (CV Doc. 1; CR Doc. 55). Defendant alleges that, because of his status as a deportable alien, he is ineligible for certain pre-release custody programs. He argues that his ineligibility was a mitigating factor at sentencing, and this Court's failure to consider his deportability resulted in a longer sentence than would have been imposed on an American citizen.

According to the motion, the Court's failure to reduce Defendant's sentence based on deportability violated his rights under the Equal Protection Clause. No relief is available on Defendant's claim.

[Defendant's] request for a downward departure based on the "collateral consequences" of his status as a deportable alien has been foreclosed

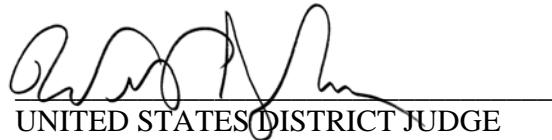
. "[T]he federal government can treat aliens differently from citizens so long as the difference in treatment has a rational basis." . . . We agree . . . [that] there is a rational basis to deem deportable aliens, who will be sent out of the country after the term of their sentence, ineligible for programs geared toward rehabilitating prisoners who will re-enter society after their release from confinement.

United States v. Tamayo, 162 F. App'x 813, 814, 816 (10th Cir. 2006) (internal citations omitted).

Under the reasoning in *Tamayo*, no relief is available on Defendant's claim under § 2255 for

reduction of his sentence. *See* § 2255 R. 4(b). The Court will dismiss Defendant's motion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendant's Motion For Time Reduction By An Inmate In Federal Custody, (28 U.S.C.A. § 2255) (CV Doc. 1; CR Doc. 55) is DISMISSED with prejudice, and judgment will be entered.



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, cursive strokes. Below the signature, there is a horizontal line. Underneath this line, the words "UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE" are printed in a standard, sans-serif font.